

VERSION OF MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES

- Claim 1. (Amended) A method for supplying a flowable medium to the tobacco rod of a smoking product (2), wherein the medium is introduced on a drum (1) of a cigarette machine, after the rod is formed.
- Claim 2. (Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the flowable medium is introduced as a material selected from the group of: liquid, pasty, powdery, filiform or gaseous medium.
- Claim 3. (Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1 [or 2], wherein the flowable medium is introduced into the rod of the smoking product[, in particular a cigarette,] by [means of] a hollow mandrel (16)[, in particular] by inserting the hollow mandrel (16) into a front end and discharging the medium from the hollow mandrel while withdrawing it from the rod.
- Claim 5. (Amended) The method as set forth in [any one of] claim[s] 1 [to 4,] wherein the medium is introduced on the [an already available or additional] drum (1) of [the] a filter assembler of [the] a cigarette machine.
- Claim 6. (Amended) The method as set forth in [any one of] claim[s] 3 [to 5,] wherein the hollow mandrel (16)[, in particular together with other hollow mandrels,] is held on a carrier drum (5) [or section of a carrier drum] rotating synchronously with the drum (1).
- Claim 7. (Amended) The method as set forth in [any one of] claim[s] 3 [to 5,] wherein the hollow mandrel (16)[, which in particular] is provided with screw-like outer grooves, is inserted into and extracted from the rod with auto-rotation[, in particular with auto-rotation] in opposite directions for inserting and extracting.

Claim 8. (Amended) The method as set forth in claim 6 [or 7,] wherein the flowable medium is supplied to the hollow mandrel (16) [and/or rod] by [means of] the rotational centrifugal forces of the rotating carrier drum (5).

Claim 9. (Amended) The method as set forth in claim 6 [or 7,] wherein the flowable medium is supplied to the hollow mandrel (16) [and/or rod] by [means of] a pump.

Claim 10. (Amended) The method as set forth in [any one of] claim[s] 8 [or 9,] wherein the flow of the medium is regulated by [means of] a valve[/control means].

Claim 11. (Amended) A device for supplying a flowable medium to the tobacco of a smoking product (2)[, characterized in that it] compris[es]ing a means by which the medium is introduced on a drum (1) of the cigarette machine, after the rod has been formed.

Claim 12. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 11, [characterized in that it] further compris[es]ing a hollow mandrel (16), by means of which the flowable medium is introduced into the rod of the smoking product[, in particular a cigarette, in particular] by inserting the hollow mandrel (16) into the front end and discharging the medium from the hollow mandrel while withdrawing it from the rod.

Claim 13. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 12, [characterized in that it] further compris[es]ing an axial movement means (5, 6, 7, 8, 9), which moves the hollow mandrel (16) at a uniform speed with respect to the rod when introducing the medium, allowing the medium to be distributed over the rod.

Claim 14. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any one of] claim[s] 11 [to 13, characterized in that an already available or additional] wherein a drum (1) of [the] a filter assembler of [the] a cigarette machine is used as a holding means for the smoking product (2) when introducing the medium.

Claim 15. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any one of] claim[s] 12 [to 14, characterized in that it] further compris[es]ing a carrier drum (5) [or section of a carrier drum] rotating synchronously with the drum (1) as a holding device for the hollow mandrel (16)[, in particular also for other hollow mandrels].

Claim 16. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any one of] claim[s] 13 [to 15, characterized in that] wherein the axial movement means comprises a sliding part (6) on which the hollow mandrel (16)[, in particular fastened to an application body (10),] may slide axially when being inserting into or extracted from the rod, wherein the axial movement is generated via an inclined plate (9)[, in particular a cam plate,] on which a running bearing (7, 8) connected to the sliding part (6) runs off.

Claim 17. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any one of] claim[s] 13 [to 16, characterized in that it] further compris[es]ing a rotating means (11, 12, 13, 32) with which the hollow mandrel (16)[, which in particular] is provided with screw-like outer grooves, and is further provided with auto-rotation when it is inserted into the rod and extracted from it[, in particular with auto-rotation in opposing directions when inserted and extracted].

Claim 18. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 17[, characterized in that] wherein the rotating means comprises a rotating bearing (32) for the application body (10), to which the hollow mandrel (16) is fastened, as well as toothed wheels (11) on the circumference which mesh with respective tooth meshings (12, 13) and effect the respective auto-rotation when the hollow mandrel (16) and[/or] the application body (10) is moved axially.

Claim 19. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim[s] 15 [to 18, characterized in that it] further compris[es]ing a supplying means (25, 26) which supplies the flowable medium to the hollow mandrel (16) and[/or] rod by means of the rotational centrifugal forces of the rotating carrier drum (5).

Claim 20. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 19[, characterized in that] wherein the supplying means comprises a conduit (26) centered on the rotational axis of the carrier drum (5), from which the respective application bodies (10) and[/or] hollow mandrels (16) are fed with the medium via radially arranged, rotating feed lines (25).

Claim 21. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any one of] claim[s] 11 [to 18, characterized in that it] further compris[es]ing a pump, by means of which the flowable medium is supplied to the hollow mandrel (16) [and/or the rod].

Claim 22. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any one of] claim[s] 19 [to 21, characterized in that it] further compris[es]ing a valve[/control] means (15, 27-31), using which the flow of the medium is regulated.